

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 8, 9 and 11-14 are amended. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Abdulselam in the March 16 and August 24 personal interviews. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interviews is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,140,983 to Quanrud in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,677,991 to Ito. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Quanrud does not teach, disclose or suggest "a display controller that outputs a signal ..., to always display during display operations the same color at pixels in the peripheral region regardless of color indicated for the pixels in the peripheral region by the externally supplied display signal," as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claims 3 and 8; "a display controller that outputs to said driver mask data to display each of the pixels in the peripheral region of said display panel in the same particular color regardless of color indicated for the pixels in the peripheral region by the externally supplied display data," as recited in claim 2 and as similarly recited in claims 4 and 9; and "outputting a signal to said driver at the detected timing to display the same color at pixels in the peripheral region regardless of color indicated for the pixels in the peripheral region by the externally supplied display signal," as recited in claim 7. The recited claim features significantly enhance the visibility in the peripheral region of the active display area. Such enhancements is not achieved in achieved in the conventional art (see, for example, specification at paragraph 28).

The Office Action, at page 3 admits that "Quanrud does not disclose a timing detection that detects timing to drive the pixels in the peripheral region of the display panel." Specifically, Fig. 5 of Quanrud shows a back plate IC 42, including a display matrix 44, connected to an external source of image data by an interface 50. The display matrix 44 includes plural display circuits, each including two or more memory cells for storing sub-images (col. 13, lines 41-57). The memory cells hold data so data does not need to be transferred as often as if the memory cells were not provided. In Quanrud, the pixel is displayed as indicated by the image data from the external source. The data transfer does not alter the image display. Quanrud does not teach, disclose or suggest displaying the same color at pixels in the peripheral region during display operations regardless of the external supplied signal/data.

Ito does not remedy the deficiencies of Quanrud. Ito discloses a portable display apparatus selectively operable in a still picture mode or a movie mode in which void pixels where color data are absent are interpolated (Abstract). Ito does not teach or suggest displaying the same color at pixels in the peripheral region during display operations regardless of the external supplied signal/data. Accordingly, even if combined, Quanrud and Ito do not teach or suggest displaying the same color at pixels in the peripheral region during display operations regardless of the external supplied signal/data, as recited in the claims.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4 and 7-9 are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are likewise patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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